

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:329

ANSWERED ON:26.02.2013

LEGAL REFORMS

Ganpatrao Shri Jadhav Prataprao; Rama Devi Smt.

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has any proposal to bring in legal reforms in criminal laws;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with problems being faced in such reformative action;
- (c) whether the Union Government has consulted the State Governments in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor along with the time by which it is likely to be done?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (d): The Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, in its 146th Report, recommended that there should be a comprehensive review of the Criminal Justice System and introduction of composite draft legislation for revamping of the Criminal Justice System in the country. Earlier also, the Parliamentary Standing Committee, in its 111th and 128th Reports, recommended that there is an imperative need to reform and rationalize the Criminal Law of the Country by introducing a comprehensive legislation in Parliament instead of bringing amendment Bills in piecemeal. In view of the recommendations of the Committee,

Hon'ble Home Minister requested Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice to request the Law Commission of India to examine and give a comprehensive report covering all aspects of criminal law so that comprehensive amendments can be made in the various laws viz. the Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and Indian Evidence Act, 1872. The recommendations of the Law Commission are awaited. As the Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure are in the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, the State Governments /UT Administrations will be consulted after receipt of the recommendations. As the whole process requires wide ranging consultations, no time-frame can be fixed in this regard.